





JOHN GATWOOD, } EDITORS.  
R. D. CUSHEN, }

HARRISONBURG, VA.

Wednesday, - - - March 3, 1869.

## UNIFORM SUFFRAGE.

Mr. Boutwell, of Mass., submitted a report from the conference committee on the suffrage constitutional amendment, on Thursday last, which was adopted by a vote of 148 yeas to 34 nays. It is in the following words:

Be it resolved, &c., (two-thirds of both houses concurring) That the following amendment to the constitution of the United States be submitted to the legislatures of the several States, and when ratified by three-fourths thereof, it shall be a part of said constitution:

Article 15. The right of the citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of race, color or previous condition of servitude.

Sec. 2. The Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.

The words "to hold office," it will be observed, were omitted. The object of this proposed amendment is to make suffrage uniform in all the States. So far as the abstract principle is concerned, we can see no objection to it. All men who are capable of voting intelligently and with reference to their responsibility as freemen, in one State, ought to be permitted to vote in another. But whether the Congress of the U. S., or the States themselves, have the right to regulate the question of suffrage, is another question; and this is the question, practically, for the decision of the States, when the proposed amendment shall be submitted to their consideration. If three-fourths of the States shall adopt the amendment, they will thereby abandon the principle heretofore adopted and acted upon, namely, that the States, being sovereign, have the exclusive right to judge and decide upon the qualification of its voters.

The resolution was adopted by the Senate on the 26th, by a vote of 89 to 13, and is therefore a law. During the discussion on the subject a point of order was raised by Mr. Woodward, of Pa., that it was necessary to present the point of order, when passed, to the President for his approval, but the speaker overruled the point of order.

## COMPULSORY EDUCATION.

That it is the duty of every man to educate his children, to the extent of his ability, is generally conceded. The welfare of the community, no less than the prerogative of government, depend upon the intelligence and virtue of the people. These propositions being conceded, it is the duty of the government to afford all the facilities it can, in the legitimate exercise of its powers, to the accomplishment of so desirable an object. In some countries the government assumes the exclusive control of the subject, and the compulsory mode is adopted. In such cases, however, education only means that the people shall be taught such branches in sciences, and such moral and religious principles as have reference to the peculiar views of the controlling powers. Such a system has never yet been pursued by any republican or free government, so far as we know. Compulsory education in any particular political or religious faith, would be contrary to our views of freedom of thought.

We notice that the Legislature of Wisconsin has under consideration a bill to make education compulsory throughout the State. The proposition is being warmly discussed among the people, and it is probable that it may be defeated by a popular vote.

By reference to the fourth section of the eighth article of the Constitution put forth by the late Virginia Convention, it will be seen that it is proposed to introduce the system of compulsory education into our organic law. That section provides that "The General Assembly shall have power, after a full introduction of a public free school system, to make such laws as shall not permit parents and guardians to allow their children to grow up in ignorance and vagrancy." And the sixth section provides that "The Board of Education shall provide for uniformity of textbooks." &c. The Board will of course be composed of men who have no sympathy with the opinions of the Southern people, and their "text books" will be such as are generally used at the North, many of which are obnoxious to our views. And thus will they "educate" our children in all the abominable and pernicious ideas that prevail in Yankeeedom. It is also left optional with the Legislature to establish separate schools for the whites and blacks, if deemed proper to do so; but, it will be remembered, the Convention refused to incorporate a provision in the Constitution requiring that separate schools shall be established. It is fair to presume, in view of these facts, that the Legislature, if constituted of the same material as composed the Convention, will establish mixed schools and compel us to send our children to them. The people of Virginia can have this system by voting for the adoption of the new Constitution.

Favorite reading for office-seekers: "Put yourself in his place."

Since General Grant's election to the Presidency, and especially of late, the self-constituted leaders of the Radical party have sought by every species of strategy to commit the former to their utopian policy. As he was elected by them, they claim the right to dictate, not only who shall be his constitutional advisers, but the policy to be pursued by him relative to the so-called reconstruction. Among those who have very recently pressed upon the President elect the question as to who should represent the Keystone State in his cabinet, we may name Col. Alexander McClure, of Philadelphia. He came to urge the claims of Mr. Curtin. We quote the substance of what occurred between Col. McClure and the General from a despatch to the New York Tribune on Thursday. The writer says:

"He began business without ceremony by handing to Gen. Grant the letter of the Supreme Judges and Gov. Quay, recommending Mr. Curtin for a Cabinet portfolio. He made a brief speech, complimentary of his protégé, and tried to impress upon the mind of Gen. Grant the importance of the nomination, in view of securing the success of the Republican party in Pennsylvania."

"When McClure had finished, Gen. Grant quietly replied, saying he certainly would be glad to see the administration candidates successful in Pennsylvania, but he did not see that the Republican party of Pennsylvania should appoint a Cabinet for him, and he concluded by a very decided intimation to McClure that Curtin would not be appointed."

"McClure said: 'Now that Curtin is not to go into the Cabinet, and the preference of the party in Pennsylvania cannot be further urged, I can be free from all imputations of personal interest in urging a policy upon your administration. I appeal to you to select from Pennsylvania any man, personally acceptable to yourself, who is a representative Republican politician, without which you cannot have a statesman; and I must earnestly appeal to you not to select a man from Pennsylvania who is a stranger to our political struggles, who is a stranger to the people, and has no knowledge of the political necessities of the State. With such a man, however worthy personally, I fear the Republican party will be paralyzed, and defeat inevitable. The name of George H. Stuart, of Erie, Pa., and others have been spoken of, and I must say that not one of them would satisfy the Republican party of Pennsylvania.'"

"Gen. Grant answered: 'I cannot understand why any loyal man should object to the appointment of Stuart, or who has rendered such conspicuous service to the loyal cause; but I do not say that he is the man.' Mr. McClure then renewed his appeal in favor of any fair representative Republican who would be competent to direct the force of the administration, and to vitalize and cooperate with the party in its future conflicts in Pennsylvania; and said that the preference of men sent into it signified before the importance of a judicious political policy."

"General Grant said, in reply, 'I am not the representative of a political party, although a party voted for me.'"

## THE COPPER BILL.

It will be remembered that the President vetoed the bill recently passed by Congress for the special benefit of copper miners, upon the general principle that it was unjust and partial in its operation. The bill has passed both Houses, however, by the requisite constitutional majority, and is therefore a law. This has caused great rejoicing among the "copper heads," who will now be enabled to put on the tariff to the amount of the "protection" afforded by the bill. The price of copper is no longer to be regulated, like that of the products of the farm, by supply and demand, but by rates fixed by an act of Congress. We should think it required good lobbying—lobbying that paid well—to get that bill through.

A MIXED UP LOVE FEAST.—The "trooly loid" held a mixed up love-feast in Staunton, on Saturday last. Among the pale faces present, we notice the following: Ex-Confederate Quartermaster J. A. Harman; A. T. Maupin, Postmaster; Wm. L. Herr, U. S. Assessor; Geo. A. Smith, member of displaced soles; Rev. E. P. Phelps, Presiding Elder, and Wm. Brown, the only lamb of the Northern Methodist fold. Rev. Mr. Phelps was assisted in the exercises by his bosom friend and co-laborer, Rev. Jos. Bowser, of the African persuasion. Brother Harman gave in a splendid experience, that left no doubt of his sound conversion. Whether the brethren shouted, or sang the inspiring choruses, "John Brown's body lies moldering in the clay," we are not informed. Suffice it to say, it was a happy meeting.

"ET TU BRUCE?"—Mr. Trumbull, one of the bluest men on the Republican side in the Senate, during the debate relative to the motion to strike the name of Gen. Ass Rogers from the bill for the removal of disabilities, dealt the "Grant and Colfax Clubs" a heavy blow. It seems that the Richmond Club objected to Gen. Rogers, who is acting as Second Auditor of Va. Mr. Trumbull said, "if Congress was to be the register of the edicts of Grant and Colfax Clubs, it might as well adjourn. What did this memorial say? It gave not a single reason why these disabilities should not be removed. Perhaps this Grant and Colfax Club wanted the offices themselves."

Some things can be done as well as others.

The discussion in Congress on the proposed amendment to the Federal Constitution, elsewhere referred to, conferring upon the black race the right to vote in all the States, confirms our previous conviction, that the controlling party have but one object in all their legislation, and that is to promote the interests of their party, regardless of consequences. No obstacle is in their way. Read the following debate on the subject. It is decidedly refreshing:

Mr. Howard regarded the amendment, in the form agreed upon by the committee of conference, as inadequate to the demands of the occasion, and likely, if adopted, to lead to difficulty in the future.

Mr. Edwards, on the other hand, the committee of conference had struck out the very life of the text; and by striking out the very life of the text, had made the remaining half inoperative. From the amendment agreed upon by the committee it would seem that Congress was so eager to do something by way of amendment to the Constitution that it had made the next step necessary.

Mr. Wilson said that for nearly thirty years he had done all he could, by word and vote, against slavery, and all things connected with it. He had always demanded what was right, and done his best to attain it; but he had also acted upon the idea of taking what he could get; believing that one step taken made the next step easier.

Mr. Morton said the committee of conference had exceeded their powers by striking out a vital part of the text, which had already been agreed to.

Mr. Morrill also believed that important measure as an amendment to the Constitution should never be sent to a committee of conference. He appealed to the Republican party, in view of their internal differences on the subject, to abandon the pending attempt to amend the Constitution, and fall back upon their past avowed policy of the right to regulate the suffrage laws with the States.

Mr. Sawyer said that probably no man had done more to advance the cause of the negro than the amendment in the Constitution. He would vote to agree to the report of the committee; but before doing so he wished to make the Senate understand clearly the position in which the adopted measure would place the Republicans in the reconstructed States. For two years they had lain under the reproach that the Republican party put the negro upon an equal footing with the white man in all over the country. But here was an amendment proposed which would place the negro in a position of inferiority to the white man. He would not vote for it.

Mr. Stewart said it was very easy to say that whatever risk must be taken ought to be taken for the right; but the difficulty was, that no two Senators seemed to agree exactly as to what was right. The Senator from Kansas (Mr. Pomero) wanted female suffrage; the Senator from Vermont (Mr. Edmunds) and others wanted to give the right to hold office. The Senator from Nevada (Mr. Stewart) desired that no discrimination should be made on account of nativity or creed. Under such circumstances the pending proposition seemed to be a compromise upon which an agreement could be possibly secured, and unless it were acted upon now, the opportunity to amend the Constitution at all would be lost.

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## THE SPEAKERSHIP.

The withdrawal of Mr. Dawes leaves Mr. Blaine an easy race for the Speakership; though his success has for a long time been assured, in our judgment, Mr. Blaine has a good deal of personal popularity, and will probably make an able presiding officer.

The Democrats propose holding a caucus, and will make party nominations, we suppose. Some think their best course would be to vote for some fair man of the opposing party. In England the Speaker is usually chosen by a common understanding between the two parties, and the office is quasi-judicial.—National Intelligencer.

The organ of female suffrage.—The Revolution is in favor of women riding velocipedes, "as the velocipede can be ridden at first in no other possible way than astride, and fashion-worshipping ladies will easily overcome all delicate scruples about the manner of riding." A great many efforts are made now-a-days to get ladies to overcome all delicate scruples. But after the loss of delicacy—what?—New York Times.

THE HEALTH OF QUEEN VICTORIA.—A correspondent of an English paper thus writes: "I understand that her Majesty's health is anything but good, and she herself contemplates the public duties awaiting her with a nervousness approaching to dread. All indoor ceremonies have a depressing effect upon her, and standing for any length of time leads to violent attacks of sickness and faintness."

SERIOUS ACCIDENT.—On Friday, James Ryan a fireman on the Orange, Alexandria and Manassas railroad, fell from his engine whilst it was in rapid motion, near Manassas Junction, striking with such force as to break both his legs. Dr. Lewis, of Alexandria, was brought upon a special train, and found it necessary to amputate both legs, which was done. At last accounts the poor fellow was not expected to live.—Lynchburg Republican.

KANSAS AND THE SUFFRAGE AMENDMENT.—The following dispatch is published by the Sunday Chronicle, Washington: "The first statement of that Senator had been true, it would be an excellent reason why the amendment should be delayed until it could be passed upon by elected representatives of the people."

The theory of the Government was that the will of the people should govern; but the desire of the majority was to take the people at a disadvantage and force this amendment upon them before their voice could be heard. The whole tenor of the debate on the Republican side seemed to be: "We have started in this business, and we must have something to matter whether our judgments approve it or not." An extraordinary spirit in which to consider so grave a matter as a constitutional amendment changing the form of our government! His colleague had expressed his willingness to take half a loaf if he could be assured that the whole was the people of Indiana, and not his colleagues, who would have to eat the bread. He (Mr. Hendricks) had no intention to set up a half loaf in this matter, but merely desired to represent the will of the people of his State.

Mr. Drake inquired whether the result of the Indiana election last fall might not reasonably be taken to indicate that the Senator

(Mr. Hendricks) did not represent the will of the people of that State.

Mr. Hendricks replied that the Republican party had succeeded last fall in electing the plain, honest people of Indiana by telling them that it was easier to say that that party meant to force negro equality upon them. If he looked only to party considerations he might desire that the Republican party should force this amendment upon the people; and he believed that if the question whether they would surrender the right to regulate suffrage and the holding of office were now to be submitted to the people of Indiana, they would refuse, by a very large majority, to make the surrender.

THE PARDON BUSINESS.—The constitutional amendment imposes disabilities on not less than one hundred and fifty thousand persons, and the iron-clad test-oath on some seven or eight millions more. Congress graciously relieved one or two hundred persons the other day, and their whole work of magnanimity for the session may reach three hundred in all before they close. This is, indeed, progress towards conciliation, and if the same rate be kept up, by the close of the present century there will be few persons needing the clemency of these truly generous men. Let us have peace.—National Intelligencer.

SPEECH IN THE HOUSE BY A NEGRO.—There was quite a sensation in the House to-day over the spectacle of a colored man making a speech from a member's seat. J. Willis Menard, the colored claimant for a seat from Louisiana, addressed the House in behalf of his claim. His white opponent (Hunt) declined to avail himself of the opportunity to reply. Menard is a rather intelligent-looking negro, smiling all over, and all the time. A smart debate sprang up following his speech, Messrs. Garfield, Paine, Schenck, and others, taking ground for his admission in opposition to the report of the committee. From present appearances Menard will be sworn in and allowed to take his seat.—Dispatch 1st March.

THE RECONSTRUCTION QUESTION.—No further action will be had upon reconstruction—the Virginia, Mississippi and Georgia questions—until the new session opens. This is quite clear to-day. Those opposing the Underwood constitution and that framed for Mississippi as they stand are evidently highly gratified with the fact as they anticipate great assistance from President Grant in the matter of obtaining more liberal terms to the native whites of the South willing to sustain the reconstruction policy of Congress in good faith than are embraced in the State constitution named above.—National Republican, of 26th.

At Bethesda, near Greenwood, the residence of the bride's parents, on Thursday morning the 26th of February, by Rev. John L. Clark, J. H. H. WARMAN, Esq., Editor of the Rockingham Register, and Miss AMANDA J., daughter of Joseph Deane, Esq., of Albemarle county, Va.

On the 26th of February, by Rev. James F. Liggett, Mr. JACOB S. RUSSELL and Miss ANNA ELIZA DENNETT—all of this county.

On the 26th of February, by Rev. A. Poe Boude, Mr. E. T. K. TAPP and Miss MAGGIE E. SELLERS—all of this county.

On the 18th of February, by Rev. Thomas E. Carson, Mr. JOSEPH DINKEL and Miss MARY C. PIERCE—all of this county.

On the 21st of February, by Rev. Abraham Knapp, Mr. BENJAMIN GLOVER and Mrs. LYDIA GATHER—all of this county.

## DIED.

At his residence near Luray, Page county, on Sunday night last, Mr. ABRAHAM KENDRICK, aged about 81 years. The deceased had been in feeble health for some time, but was able to attend to his affairs up to the day of his sudden death. He was much respected and respected in the community for his sterling integrity, honesty and irreproachable character. He has left a large circle of relatives and friends to mourn his loss.

JOHN CHAPMAN departed this life, Feb. 21, 1869, aged 66 years, 4 months and 7 days. The subject of this notice lived long in the world without Christ, but having been afflicted two years, he embraced the opportunity to prepare for death. Having visited him two weeks before his decease, he told me that all was well, and as he felt a joyful consciousness that his name was written in Heaven, he desired to join with the people of God on earth. I extended the hand of fellowship. May the Lord bless the company of his youth, who will soon follow him, and also their children.

H. A. BOVEY.

## FINANCIAL AND COMMERCIAL.

FINANCIAL.  
Gold is declining and the selling price at close on Monday was 151 1/2.

Gold—Buying 150; selling 151.  
Silver—Buying 127; selling 130.

BONDS AND STOCKS.  
Virginia 6's.....coupon..... 62 1/2  
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O. A. & M. R. R. 220th..... 45  
O. A. & M. R. R. 221st..... 45  
O. A. & M. R. R. 2



# THE OLD COMMONWEALTH

HARRISONBURG, VA.  
Wednesday Morning, March 8, 1900

**READING MATTER ON EVERY PAGE**  
OF THIS PAPER FOR THE BENEFIT OF  
ADVERTISERS.

**LOCAL AFFAIRS.**  
**PUBLIC SALES ADVERTISED.**  
March 8—Sale of the Shapp land, on War  
Branch, in Rockingham county, 197 acres, well  
improved. W. H. Edinger and W. H. Compton,  
Commissioners.

March 9—Sale of 88 acres of land, lately be-  
longing to Mrs. Mary G. McGhee, dec'd., by the  
Heirs. It is very valuable land, on Muddy  
Creek, in Rockingham county. John G. Woodson,  
Commissioner.

March 10—The very valuable farm, formerly  
the home of Col. Wm. B. Yancy, in Rockingham  
county. G. A. Yancy, Commissioner.

March 11—Valuable tract of land on Muddy  
Creek, in Rockingham county. John G. Woodson,  
Commissioner.

March 12—Twenty acres of Rockingham land  
Wm. B. Compton, Commissioner.

March 13—A tract of 18 acres land, near Mc-  
Gheesville, in Rockingham county. Wm. B.  
Compton, Commissioner.

March 13—Very valuable tract of property, on  
Main street in Harrisonburg. Some of it is of  
very great value. John G. Woodson, Comm'r.

March 20—Sale of valuable tract of property by  
S. R. Edinger, agent for Dr. G. E. Gilmer.

**SALES IN MAY.**  
May 8—Sale of "Collicello," a very valuable  
and desirable body of land, adjoining the  
town of Harrisonburg, right at the R.R. depot.  
Selling improved. Wm. B. Compton, Trustee.

**TO DAY'S ADVERTISEMENTS.**  
Valley Book Store.  
Francis & Co.—City Hotel.  
Richardson, Luther & Co.—Christened Oil.  
Chancery Officers.  
Sutton & Stuart—Ground Plaster.  
Armstrong, Gator & Co.—Ribbons, Millinery,  
Straw Goods.  
Wetzelmann's Book Store.  
Henry Porter—Merchandise.  
L. H. Ott—Drugs and Patent Medicines.  
Larkin & Ayres—Real Estate Agents.  
J. P. Edinger—Arlington House.  
S. B. Moffat & Co.—Tobacco.

**ADVERTISEMENTS** will please hand in  
their favors by Tuesday morning, as it is  
desirable to put the Commonwealth to press  
on Wednesday morning, the regular day of  
publication. Please don't forget to remem-  
ber this.

**A PAINTER, WALTER**—Sober, industrious, and  
goodworkman, wanted at this office, at once.

**Lecturer**—The Rev. John Choby will  
deliver a Lecture before Harrisonburg Lyceum,  
at the Court House, on Tuesday evening  
next, the 9th instant. The public are invited  
to attend.

**FATAL CASE OF SHOOTING.**—We are  
pained to have to record another fatal and  
distressing case of shooting, which took place  
at Bridgewater, a village in this county,  
about seven miles southwest from Harrison-  
burg. The particulars, as related to us, in  
substance, are as follow:—Mr. Martin I.  
Shank, a man and plasterer, who is a resi-  
dent of Bridgewater, some time ago had  
purchased a wife of Col. E. J. Armstrong,  
a neighbor of the place. Shank shortly af-  
terward tendered payment for the wife, but  
as Col. A. had not received the bill for it,  
the matter was deferred. Some time af-  
terward, however, having use for the money,  
Col. Armstrong called upon Shank and de-  
manded payment for the wife. From some  
cause or other, Shank became offended, and  
a quarrel ensued between the parties; but  
Shank paid the bill either then or shortly  
thereafter. Unfortunately, on several occa-  
sions after the occurrence of the difficulty,  
Shank attacked Col. Armstrong, in the street  
and threatened him with personal violence.  
On Saturday last, while going from his store  
to his dwelling, which is near Shank's re-  
sidence, the attack was renewed but the time  
interference of friends arrested the affair,  
and Shank was taken home and confined in  
a room. After dinner Col. Armstrong, fear-  
ful that the attack would be renewed as he  
returned to the store, armed himself with a  
pistol for the purpose of defending himself.  
His fears were well founded; for Shank had  
escaped from his room, and as soon as Col. A.  
appeared upon the street the former attacked  
him with a chair which he had taken from a  
shop near by. Col. A. drew his pistol, and  
warned Shank that he should be advanced  
upon him his life would be in danger. Shank  
disregarded the warning and continued to  
rush upon Col. A. with the injured chair,  
and when in the act of striking the latter,  
the pistol was discharged, the ball taking  
effect near the pit of the stomach. Shank  
was taken to his house and every at-  
tention paid him; but the wound was mortal  
and he expired within an hour or so after  
the fatal occurrence.

We are personally acquainted with Col.  
Armstrong, and understand that he is dis-  
abled in one of his arms, and was not capable  
of parrying the attack of his assailant, who  
is represented to have been a comparatively  
young man, in the vigor of his strength. Shank  
was unfortunately under the influence  
of liquor when he made the attack upon  
Col. Armstrong on Saturday. But for that  
circumstance, the community, as well as the  
afflicted families of the parties engaged in  
this sad affair, would not doubt have been  
spared the terrible consequences of it.

The circumstances of the case are now be-  
ing investigated from all that we can hear  
the general belief seems to be that the shoot-  
ing was done in self-defense.

Since writing the above, we have been in-  
formed that a thorough examination of the  
case was had, yesterday, at Bridgewater, by  
four Justices, which resulted in Colonel  
Armstrong's acquittal.

**THE AMERICAN FARMER.**—This valuable  
Farm Magazine for March is on our table.  
It was established in 1819, and is the oldest  
agricultural publication in the United States.  
It is as good as it could. Try it. \$2 a year.  
Worthington & Lewis, No. 4 South street,  
Baltimore, Md.

# THE MERRY SOLVER

Having awak-  
ened among our distant readers some interest  
in the case of a worthy citizen of this en-  
terprising city, whose "mysterious dis-  
appearance" we referred to in our last, it is nat-  
urally to be expected that we should give an  
anxious public "more light" on the subject.  
Our suspicions have been fully confirmed.—  
We have arrived at our conclusions by the  
safest and most logical method, on known facts.  
For some time past, we happened to know,  
our most estimable friend and fellow-citizen  
had been addicted to music and poetry; and  
so great was his proficiency in these  
divine accomplishments, that he was consti-  
tuted chief organ of that deservedly popular  
institution, the "Shenandoah Musical Asso-  
ciation," at its grand annual meeting in Jan-  
uary last. This was a tribute of which the  
most accomplished singers might be proud.  
Music, poetry, love—leaven-borne trio! Once  
let a man's soul be attuned to the "concord  
of sweet sounds," let him court the divine  
inspiration of the "heavenly muses," let his  
heart be moved by the tender passion, love,  
and what next? Matrimony, of course.  
Never knew an exception. We have the  
advantage of some personal experience as  
well as a good deal of observation about the  
matter. But to return. Our esteemed and  
worthy neighbor, the Senior of the Register,  
the acknowledged father of the Valley press,  
like a wise and prudent man, as he is, has  
taken unto himself a "better half." We  
congratulate him upon his good fortune.—  
For further particulars, see the hymeneal de-  
partment.

**CORRECTION.**—A friend, writing from  
Edinburg, says that we were mistaken in  
saying that the officers of Shenandoah Chap-  
ter had been installed under dispensation.—  
It is working under a charter granted in  
December last. We are requested to say  
that this Chapter is a separate institution,  
in no way related to old Shenandoah Chap-  
ter, which became extinct before the war.

**Tax New Market Depot.** we are hap-  
py to learn, has been completed, and is now  
ready for the reception of produce. John  
G. Zirk, Esq., is the agent at this point, and  
has entered upon the discharge of his  
duties.

**HEARTH AND HOME.**—Ten numbers of this  
new and entertaining weekly are on our file,  
and although it was announced in glowing  
language, before its publication, yet there  
has been no exaggeration as to its merits,  
and every number possesses increasing inter-  
est. It is a very valuable illustrated weekly,  
and will be long become a companion in every  
family circle in the land. Success to  
"Hearth and Home." \$3 a year. "Potter-  
gill, Bates & Co., 31 Park Row, N. Y."

**A DAILY FREIGHT TRAIN** we learn will  
run between Harrisonburg and Alexandria  
from and after this date. This will greatly  
facilitate the transportation of produce, mer-  
chandise, &c. The hour for the arrival and  
departure of the train will probably be the  
same as at present. Should a change take  
place, due notice will be given.

**THE MARYLAND FARMER.**—This splendid  
Southern Agricultural publication for March  
has been received. For Virginia and Mary-  
land farmers there is no better farm journal.  
It embraces an Agricultural department, Live  
Stock Register, Horticulture, Grapes, culture,  
Floriculture, Domestic Affairs, Mechanics,  
Arts, and is finely illustrated. \$1.50 a year.  
The farmer who is unwilling to pay such a  
small sum for a "good farm magazine," does  
not appreciate its duty to the community  
at large nor to himself. This publication can  
be seen at present. S. S. Davis & Co., pub-  
lishers, No. 24 South-Corner street,  
Baltimore, Md.

**ARTHUR'S HOME MAGAZINE.**—This excel-  
lent monthly for March has been received,  
and the number before us continues to main-  
tain the high ground of literary excellence  
that has given it so strong a hold on the af-  
fections of the people everywhere in this  
country. It is a good family magazine, hence  
it is popular. \$2 a year. T. S. Arthur &  
Sons, 809 Chestnut street, Philadelphia.

**ONCE A MONTH.**—The March number of  
this handsome little periodical is on our table.  
We have read it and find many good things  
in it, but some that are bad. The number  
before us contains an article headed "Done  
in Ebony" which we regard as an insid-  
ious and ungenerous attack upon our people;  
a silly attempt to magnify the "late lamented"  
in short, a style of literature that com-  
pels us to decline recommending this pub-  
lication to the patronage of Southern readers.

**Almost a Fire.**—Last night the ash-  
house of Mrs. Riddleberger, on East Market  
Street, was discovered to be on fire about 10  
o'clock. By this timely discovery a large  
fire was prevented. Will our people never  
learn the danger of putting bad ashes into  
wooden houses?

**RAMAYAT.**—The team attached to the  
stage bound for Staunton, ran off, this morn-  
ing, while standing before the stage-floes in  
this place, going down the road at full speed.  
We have not heard the particulars.

**Waverly, Va., Feb. 25, 1899.**  
**Editors Old Commonwealth:**  
Sir—Thinking the following statistics  
might be of interest to your readers, I copy  
them from the annual report to the American  
Tract Society, embracing the collection of  
Rev. J. N. Ross:

No. of square miles in the County, 838;  
its population, 37,000; churches in the  
County, 66; number of persons these churches  
could probably seat, 12,000; their prob-  
able average attendance, 6,000; Sabbath  
Schools in the County, 46; scholars, 3,100;  
congregations, 119; amount granted to 26 of  
the schools, \$74; number of public meetings  
addressed by the Colporteur, 140; families  
visited by the Bible, 63; families destitute  
of religious books, 71; Roman Catholics  
visited, 4; families converted and prayed  
with, 1,307; whole number of families visited  
during the year, 1,564; number of fami-  
lies who habitually neglect public worship,  
134.

There have been granted to the prior and  
destitute of the county, during the year,  
\$196.83 worth of books.

The above statement is the result of a  
year's work as Colporteur of the American  
Tract Society. If you think it interesting  
enough, you can publish it in your columns.  
Wishing you great success, I remain, as ever,  
Your friend,  
G. W. STANLEY,  
Colporteur.

**The Spanish forces in arms** on the  
Island of Cuba are said to number  
70,000 men.

# Miscellaneous

J. D. PRICE, GEO. S. HEWLETT,  
OF VIRGINIA, formerly of Texas, &c., &c.

# THE OLD RELIABLE

**Real Estate Agency,**  
Harrisonburg, Rockingham Co., Va.  
**J. D. PRICE & CO.**

This being the oldest Real Estate Agency in  
the State of Virginia, having been in op-  
eration since June, 1865, offers the most reliable  
TAXES, MILL PROPERTIES, MILL SITES,  
TOWN PROPERTIES, TAN-YARDS,  
FOUNDRIES,

also, several large tracts of  
**TIMBER AND MINERAL LANDS,**  
some of the tracts containing over 10,000 acres.  
These timber lands are timbered with the best  
of Virginia white wood, Hemlock, Oak,  
and Rock Oak. These lands can be purchased  
at nominal prices.

**THE ARABLE LANDS**  
we have for sale, consist of  
LIMESTONE, FREESTONE, PLINT, and  
BLACK SLATS, as well as the finest  
quality of RIVER BOTTOM LANDS.

Parties from the North or West will find in  
Rockingham county persons from all sections of  
the Union, many of whom have located here  
since the war, and who will bear testimony to  
the fertility and hospitality of these citizens  
who are to the "memorabilia."

For GENERALITY OF CLIMATE, HEALTH,  
HOSPITALITY OF CITIZENS,  
PRODUCTIVENESS OF  
THE SOIL, and for all other reasons upon a com-  
munity, this great Shenandoah Valley certainly  
stands preeminent.

Flowing can be done here each month of  
the year, and the extreme mildness of our  
climate, cattle can run at large ten months of  
the year, thus saving an immense supply of for-  
age for the winter for the transportation of CATTLE,  
&c., &c.

For further particulars, address  
J. D. PRICE & CO.  
Lock Box "D," Harrisonburg, Va.  
Send for a Catalogue.

**S. GRADWOHL,**  
OF THE  
**GREAT CLOTHING STORE,**  
Under the American Hotel,  
**HAS GONE TO BALTIMORE.**

To Select a Splendid Supply of  
**SPRING CLOTHING.**  
Look out for him! He sells cheap.

**LIPPINCOTT'S MAGAZINE.**  
Beyond the Brethren—An American Novel,  
part III, by Hon. Robert Dale Owen, Insignia-  
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Cuba; Our Monthly Gossip; Literature of the Day.

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The Publishers of Lippincott's Magazine take  
great pleasure in announcing to their subscrib-  
ers that with commencing in the July number  
of this Magazine, a new Serial Novel by Anthony  
Trollope, entitled "The Doctor's Wife," "The  
Claverings," "The Pines Fin," etc., etc.

For sale at all the Book and News Stores.  
Yearly subscription, \$4.00. Single numbers 35  
cents.

**CLUB RATES.**—Two copies \$7.00. Five do.  
\$16.00. Ten do. \$29.00. Address  
Lippincott & Co., 150 N. 2nd St., Philadelphia.  
The business of the late firm will be settled by  
either J. M. Locke or J. D. Price.

**DIVISION OF CO-OPERATION.**  
The Co-operative Republic existing between  
J. D. Price & Co., and American Novel, part  
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and I; A Tale by Alice Cary; The Revolution in  
Cuba; Our Monthly Gossip; Literature of the Day.

**NOTICE.**—The undersigned have formed a  
co-partnership, under the name and style of  
J. D. Price & Co., to conduct the Real Estate  
Agency and the Insurance Agency business.  
By prompt attention to business and fair deal-  
ing we solicit a share of patronage.  
J. D. PRICE,  
GEO. S. HEWLETT.

**BANK ROW.**  
REMOVED TO BANK ROW, NEXT DOOR  
TO OLD BANK OF ROCKINGHAM.

**1869! THE NEW YEAR! 1869!**  
CHANGE IN MODE OF DOING BUSINESS.  
THE CASH SYSTEM INAUGURATED.

I TAKE this method of calling public atten-  
tion to my very extensive and varied assort-  
ment of Dry Goods, Groceries, Boots, Shoes,  
Hats, Caps, &c., &c., which I now propose to  
sell at greatly reduced prices FOR CASH.  
I desire further to call your attention to the  
important change I have made in my mode of  
doing business, by which it is my purpose, from  
January 1, 1869, to do business on a strictly cash  
basis.

To do a strictly cash business!  
and thereby determined to make it to the in-  
terest of my customers to buy for cash, feeling  
assured that I can afford to sell goods at much  
less profit, besides giving a larger and  
freer assortment of goods than otherwise.  
This course is not adopted from any lack of  
confidence in the good people who have so long  
and liberally patronized me, but owing to the  
unsettled condition of our country and currency,  
and other impediments of success in business by  
the old credit system, with my limited capital.  
Believing the cash system to be the only way  
to do business properly, I have determined to  
adopt the system, and will call your attention to  
adhere to the same, feeling convinced that it  
will make it clearly to the interest of my customers  
to buy for CASH. Hence, I respectfully ask  
all my friends and the public generally to  
call and see me and examine my Large  
Stock of Goods,

where I will always be found ready and willing  
to show you good and reliable goods, and  
I will sell at much less profit than heretofore,  
and in defiance of competition.

The liberal patronage heretofore  
extended to me, I am determined by fair deal-  
ing to merit a continuance of the same, which I  
earnestly solicit.

J. D. PRICE & CO.,  
Real Estate and Insurance Agents,  
Over First National Bank,  
HARRISONBURG, VIRGINIA.

**FIRE INSURANCE.**—Insurance Company of New  
Haven, Conn. offers extraordinary induc-  
ments to persons desirous of insuring their  
property against loss by fire. In all particulars  
direct by J. D. PRICE & CO.

**WANTED IMMEDIATELY.**—A good Jour-  
neyman Shoemaker to make up shoes for the  
JOHN T. WASHINGTON, Jr.,  
Oct 7-M Harrisonburg, Va.

**DRESS GOODS!**  
Woolen Goods!  
Shawls! Shawls!  
Great Reduction in Prices from  
this date!  
For good Bargains in the above goods, call at  
the Ladies' Bazaar.  
WM. LOEB, Agent.

**BLANKS!**  
Blank Notes—single and double seal;  
Negotiable Notes;  
Sheriff's Sale blanks;  
Hence for Commissioners Revenue,  
Constable's Warrants,  
and Executions, &c., &c.  
Just printed, on and for sale at the  
COMMONWEALTH OFFICE.

**COMMERCIAL COLLEGE**—Script for  
SALE.—Script of several of the best Cop-  
yrighted Classics in the United States.  
THIS OFFICE.

# Miscellaneous

ORANGE, ALEXANDRIA AND MANASSAS  
RAILROAD.

**ON and after Tuesday, December 26, 1899,**  
one daily passenger train will run between  
Washington and Lynchburg, connecting at Cor-  
dova with the Virginia Central Railroad to  
Richmond and Covington; at Lynchburg for  
Richmond and South-west; and at Washington for  
the North and Northwest.

Through tickets and baggage checked to all  
principal points.  
Leave Washington daily at 8.15 a. m., and  
Alexandria at 7.15 a. m., arriving at Lynchburg  
at 4.30 p. m.  
Leave Lynchburg at 9 a. m., arrive at Alexan-  
dria at 5.55 p. m., and at Washington at 6.40  
p. m.

**FREIGHT TRAINS.**  
Run daily, (Sunday excepted) making all rail  
connections from New York, Philadelphia and  
Baltimore, all points on this road and South  
and Southwest.

**MANASSAS BRANCH.**  
A train for the Manassas Branch will leave  
Alexandria daily, excepting Sunday, at 9.55 a.  
m., arriving at Manassas at 12.30 p. m., and  
HARRISONBURG at 2 p. m.  
Eastward—leave HARRISONBURG at 6.45  
a. m., arriving at Alexandria at 8.15 a. m.,  
connecting with the train from Washington to  
Baltimore at 8 p. m.

The train leaving Alexandria at 9.55 a. m.,  
connects with the morning train to Harrisonburg  
and other points.  
Passengers from Washington and Alexandria  
to the Union, many of whom have located here  
since the war, and who will bear testimony to  
the fertility and hospitality of these citizens  
who are to the "memorabilia."

For GENERALITY OF CLIMATE, HEALTH,  
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THE SOIL, and for all other reasons upon a com-  
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Flowing can be done here each month of  
the year, and the extreme mildness of our  
climate, cattle can run at large ten months of  
the year, thus saving an immense supply of for-  
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Provincials; The Town of the Future; My Grandmother  
and I; A Tale by Alice Cary; The Revolution in  
Cuba; Our Monthly Gossip; Literature of the Day.

**NOTICE.**—The undersigned have formed a  
co-partnership, under the name and style of  
J. D. Price & Co., to conduct the Real Estate  
Agency and the Insurance Agency business.  
By prompt attention to business and fair deal-  
ing we solicit a share of patronage.  
J. D. PRICE,  
GEO. S. HEWLETT.

**BANK ROW.**  
REMOVED TO BANK ROW, NEXT DOOR  
TO OLD BANK OF ROCKINGHAM.

**1869! THE NEW YEAR! 1869!**  
CHANGE IN MODE OF DOING BUSINESS.  
THE CASH SYSTEM INAUGURATED.

I TAKE this method of calling public atten-  
tion to my very extensive and varied assort-  
ment of Dry Goods, Groceries, Boots, Shoes,  
Hats, Caps, &c., &c., which I now propose to  
sell at greatly reduced prices FOR CASH.  
I desire further to call your attention to the  
important change I have made in my mode of  
doing business, by which it is my purpose, from  
January 1, 1869, to do business on a strictly cash  
basis.

To do a strictly cash business!  
and thereby determined to make it to the in-  
terest of my customers to buy for cash, feeling  
assured that I can afford to sell goods at much  
less profit, besides giving a larger and  
freer assortment of goods than otherwise.  
This course is not adopted from any lack of  
confidence in the good people who have so long  
and liberally patronized me, but owing to the  
unsettled condition of our country and currency,  
and other impediments of success in business by  
the old credit system, with my limited capital.  
Believing the cash system to be the only way  
to do business properly, I have determined to  
adopt the system, and will call your attention to  
adhere to the same, feeling convinced that it  
will make it clearly to the interest of my customers  
to buy for CASH. Hence, I respectfully ask  
all my friends and the public generally to  
call and see me and examine my Large  
Stock of Goods,

where I will always be found ready and willing  
to show you good and reliable goods, and  
I will sell at much less profit than heretofore,  
and in defiance of competition.

The liberal patronage heretofore  
extended to me, I am determined by fair deal-  
ing to merit a continuance of the same, which I  
earnestly solicit.

J. D. PRICE & CO.,  
Real Estate and Insurance Agents,  
Over First National Bank,  
HARRISONBURG, VIRGINIA.

**FIRE AND Life Insurance** effected at the  
lowest rates and on the most liberal terms.  
We invite public patronage.  
Geo. F. MAYNOR, Secretary, President  
J. D. PRICE, Secretary, President

**DIRECTORS:**  
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INSURANCE COMPANY.  
Authorized Capital \$250,000.  
C. Carter, Jr., President of Virginia.  
OFFICE—N. E. CORNER 3rd & MAIN STS.,  
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We insure Policies on farms and city property,  
also, on Merchandise, for any term not ex-  
ceeding five years, at rates as low as the prompt pay-  
ment of losses will permit.

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H. S. PRICE, Vice President and Treasurer  
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**AGENTS WANTED** in every town and  
county in the State.  
J. D. PRICE & CO.

**JAMES RIVER**  
INSURANCE COMPANY.  
CHARTERED CAPITAL  
\$1,500,000.  
THE BEST BUSINESS MEN OF THE  
VALLEY INSURE IN THIS COMPANY.

A VIRGINIA COMPANY.  
1. Seated at Montreal, Nelson county, Va.  
For full particulars, inquire of  
J. D. PRICE & CO.,  
Real Estate and Insurance Agents,  
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**FIRE INSURANCE.**—Insurance Company of New  
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ments to persons desirous of insuring their  
property against loss by fire. In all particulars  
direct by J. D. PRICE & CO.

**WANTED IMMEDIATELY.**—A good Jour-  
neyman Shoemaker to make up shoes for the  
JOHN T. WASHINGTON, Jr.,  
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Woolen Goods!  
Shawls! Shawls!  
Great Reduction in Prices from  
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For good Bargains in the above goods, call at  
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WM. LOEB, Agent.

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Blank Notes—single and double seal;  
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Hence for Commissioners Revenue,  
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and Executions, &c., &c.  
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**COMMERCIAL COLLEGE**—Script for  
SALE.—Script of several of the best Cop-  
yrighted Classics in the United States.  
THIS OFFICE.

# Public and Private Sales.

**PUBLIC SALE OF**  
**ROCKINGHAM LAND.**

By virtue of a decree of Rockingham Circuit  
Court, rendered on the 25th day of October,  
1898, in the Chancery case of Gilmer vs. Sover-  
ess, &c., I will sell at public auction, to the highest  
bidder, on the premises, ON SATURDAY, the  
15TH DAY OF MARCH, 1899.



